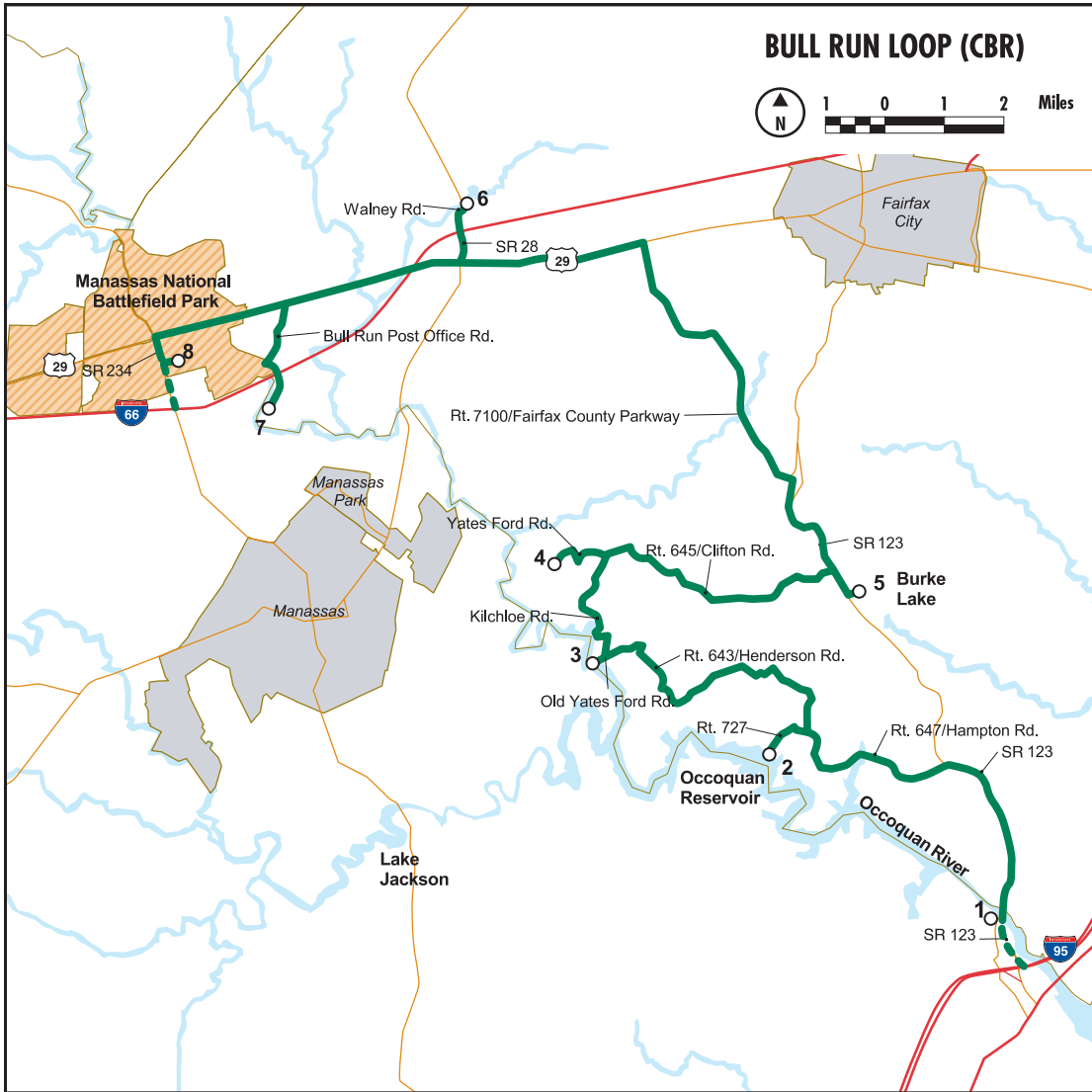


# BULL RUN - LOOP DESCRIPTION



**W**ithin the sea of Fairfax County development exists islands of wildlife habitat. These “islands” comprise the sites selected for the Bull Run Loop. Habitats range from the early successional native grasslands of the Manassas National Battlefield Park to the majestic riparian forests of hemlock and beech, all transected by the 17.5 mile Bull Run-Occoquan Trail. Only the mesmerizing beauty of the loop’s sites match the wildlife viewing opportunities.

# BULL RUN - SITE DIRECTIONS

## Site CBR01 Occoquan Regional Park

Directions: From I-95 take exit 160 and go north on SR 123 for 1.6 miles to the park entrance on the right.



## Site CBR02 Fountainhead Regional Park

Directions: From Occoquan Regional Park, return to SR 123/Ox Road, and travel north 2.3 miles to Rt. 647/Hampton Road. Travel west on Hampton Road and proceed 3.0 miles to the entrance of the park on Rt. 727.



## Site CBR03 Bull Run Marina

Directions: From Fountainhead Regional Park, return to Rt. 647/Hampton Road, and travel north for 1.4 miles to Rt. 643/Henderson Road. Proceed west on Henderson Road for 3.0 miles; turn left at the stop sign after another 0.6 miles, continuing on Henderson Road. Turn left on Old Yates Ford Road and drive 0.7 miles to the right-hand Bull Run Marina entrance. Park in the large parking lot on the left just before the marina.



## Site CBR04 Hemlock Overlook Outdoor Learning Center and Trails

Directions: From Bull Run Marina, turn left on Old Yates Ford Road and drive 0.1 miles to Kinchloe Road (an unpaved road). Proceed north to Yates Ford Road, and go west (left) 1.4 miles to Hemlock Overlook.



## Site CBR05 Burke Lake

Directions: From Hemlock Overlook, travel east on Rt. 615/Yates Ford Road for 1.8 miles to Rt. 645/Clifton Road; turn right (south) on Clifton Road and drive for 3.8 miles to SR

123/Ox Road. Proceed South on SR 123 for 0.5 miles to the entrance to Burke Lake on the left.



## Site CBR06 Ellanor C. Lawrence Park and the Walney Vistor Center

Directions: From Burke Lake Park, take SR 123 north for 2.3 miles to the Jack Herrity (Fairfax County) Parkway; travel north on Rt. 7100/Jack Herrity (Fairfax County) Parkway for 5 miles to US 29 South. Drive 3 miles to SR 28. Go north on SR 28 for 0.8 miles to Walney Road and turn right (east) onto Walney Road; drive to the Ellanor C. Lawrence Park.



## Site CBR07 Bull Run Regional Park

Directions: From E.C. Lawrence Park, return to SR 28 South and travel 0.8 miles to US 29. Drive south on US 29 for 3.0 miles to Bull Run Post Office Road and proceed south for 2.0 miles to the entrance to Bull Run Regional Park.



## Site CBR08 Manassas National Battlefield Park

Directions: Return on Bull Run Post Office Road to US 29; travel south for 2.2 miles to SR 234, and drive south 0.5 miles to Manassas National Battlefield Visitors Center.



To return to I-66, return to SR 234 and turn right. Follow this road to I-66.

# BULL RUN - SITE DESCRIPTIONS

For information on lodging and services in the local area, please contact:

Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce  
703.590.5000  
Email: lwieder@regionalchamber.org  
www.regionalchamber.org

Annandale Chamber of Commerce  
703.256.7232

Prince William County/Manassas Convention & Visitors Bureau  
703.396.7130  
Email: tmullins@visitpwc.com  
www.visitpwc.com

Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce  
703.368.6600  
Email: djones@pwcgmcc.org  
www.pwcgmcc.org

Fairfax County Convention & Visitors Bureau  
703.790.3329  
Email: larrington@fceda.org  
www.visitfairfax.org

Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce  
703.749.0400  
Email: jgray@fccc.org  
www.fccc.org

# BULL RUN - SITE DESCRIPTIONS

## Site CBR01 Occoquan Regional Park

**Site Contact:** Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, (703) 690-2121

**Web Site:** [www.nvrpa.org](http://www.nvrpa.org)

**Site Access:** Free, Daily (winter: closed)

**Motorcoach Access:** Yes

**Description:** The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority supports a number of parks along the Occoquan and Bull Creek watersheds. Most have been developed for multiple use. However, hidden by the baseball fields and fishing docks are an impressive matrix of nature trails and wildlife viewing opportunities. Occoquan Regional Park is situated on the Occoquan River just off I-95. Intermingled amidst the 400 acres of traditional recreational amenities are historic brick kilns (as well as the ghosts of suffragists imprisoned here in the early 1900s). Hiking trails allow access to mature eastern deciduous forest, with a predictable assortment of woodland birds that is impressive, given the site's proximity to I-95. The Occoquan River may be viewed from the decks at the marina, and waterfowl crowd these waters during migrations.



## Site CBR02 Fountainhead Regional Park

**Site Contact:** Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, (703) 250-9124

**Web Site:** [www.nvrpa.org](http://www.nvrpa.org)

**Site Access:** Free, Daily, (mid-March to mid November)

**Motorcoach Access:** Yes

**Description:** Fountainhead Regional Park skirts the shore of the Occoquan Reservoir. From the marina you can view a broad expanse of the reservoir and search for bald eagles, osprey, and a variety of waterfowl. More importantly, Fountainhead Regional Park is the southernmost trailhead for the Bull Run-Occoquan Trail. This marvelous park offers an extensive trail network through deciduous forest. These woods are home to many breeding woodpeckers, warblers, thrushes, and owls. Expect the diversity to explode during migration. You may also want to look for interesting shade butterflies during the summer.



## Site CBR03 Bull Run Marina

**Site Contact:** Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, (703) 250-9124

**Web Site:** [www.nvrpa.org](http://www.nvrpa.org)

**Site Access:** Free, Daily (winter: closed)

**Motorcoach Access:** No

**Description:** The Bull Run-Occoquan Trail is accessible via a trailhead located at the park. As well as offering another access point, a stroll around the reservoir offers opportunities to see a variety of eastern woodland birds, particularly in late spring and early summer, and waterfowl. This is a great spot to watch for bald eagles on the reservoir.



## Site CBR04 Hemlock Overlook Outdoor Learning Center and Trails

**Site Contact:** Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, (703) 993-4354

**Web Site:** [www.nvrpa.org](http://www.nvrpa.org)

**Site Access:** Free, Daily (winter: closed)

**Motorcoach Access:** Yes

**Description:** Hemlock Overlook is an outdoor learning center jointly operated by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and George Mason University. This off-the-beaten-path location offers a great site to enjoy wildlife at a relaxed pace. The trails may be used without prior arrangement and are open year round.

Hemlock overlook is one of a string of natural sites running along the Occoquan Reservoir and Bull Run. Access is limited, but the overlook offers another trailhead for the Bull Run-Occoquan Trail. While on the trail, watch for an assortment of shade butterflies and damselflies such as the powdered dancer.



## Site CBR05 Burke Lake

**Site Contact:** Fairfax County Park Authority, (703) 323-6601

**Web Site:** [www.co.fairfax.va.us/parks](http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/parks)

**Site Access:** Free (residents), \$6 (non-residents, weekends and holidays), April-October

**Motorcoach Access:** Yes

**Description:** Burke Lake dominates this 888-acre park, and fishing dominates Burke Lake. For wildlife watchers, there is a 4.5 mile trail that circles the lake. Vesper Island is maintained by the state as a refuge, and it is not unusual to see bald eagles around the lake due to the park's proximity to Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge.



## Site CBR06 Ellanor C. Lawrence Park and the Walney Vistor Center

**Site Contact:** Fairfax County Park Authority, (703) 631-0013

**Web Site:** [www.co.fairfax.va.us/parks/ecl](http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/parks/ecl)

**Site Access:** Free, Daily

**Motorcoach Access:** Yes

**Description:** Ellanor C. Lawrence Park is a nature destination with creeks and ponds, forests and meadows, and an interpretive center. This site is a "must visit" for anyone traversing the Bull Run Loop. Entering the park, you are greeted by a small pond framed by a hiking trail, fishing deck, and boardwalks. Walney Pond, about once acre in extent, is bordered by a marshy margin that attracts an impressive variety of butterflies, dragonflies, and damselflies. During late spring and early summer the forests are filled with birdsongs. Listen for an assortment of woodland species including scarlet tanager and several species of warblers.